

Existing law provides that in order to qualify as a mediator, a person must have completed a minimum of 40 classroom hours of training in mediation in a course conducted by the MCLE Committee and must be licensed to practice law in any state for not less than five years.

New law retains existing law and provides that a course may be conducted by an individual or an organization approved by the MCLE Committee or the ADR Section of the Louisiana State Bar Association.

Prior law provided that a person, whether or not licensed to practice law, may qualify as a mediator if he has mediated more than 25 disputes or must have engaged in more than 500 hours of dispute resolutions prior to Jan. 1, 1998.

New law provides that a person may qualify as a mediator, must have completed a minimum of 40 classroom hours of training in a course conducted by an individual or an organization approved by the MCLE Committee or the ADR Section, and must have mediated more than 25 disputes or has engaged in more than 500 hours of dispute resolutions.

Existing law defines "ADR Section" as the Louisiana State Bar Association, Alternative Dispute Resolution Section (R.S. 9:4101).

New law provides that the ADR Section may approve mediation training courses and continuing education courses for the qualification of mediators.

Prior law provided that in order to maintain status in the approved register of qualified mediators, a mediator must participate in six hours of annual training in alternative dispute resolutions.

New law changes prior law by requiring that a mediator participate in ten hours of training every two years.

Effective August 15, 1999.

(Amends R.S. 9:4106)